How Much Does It Cost to Fly with a Pet on Delta Air Lines?

QUICK ANSWER:

In-cabin pets cost $95 each way domestic, the lowest among major US airlines. International: approximately $200 each way. Delta Cargo rates vary by animal size and route ($200-500+ domestic). Service dogs are free. Two small pets in one carrier may pay one fee. Additional costs include health certificates and carriers. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for exact pricing on your route.

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Press 0 to skip menu — pet spots are limited per flight
Best time: Tue-Wed 6-8 AM ET | Source: delta.com/pets

DELTA PET FEE BREAKDOWN:

1. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 to reserve a pet spot — cannot be booked online, spots are limited

2. Verify your carrier fits under the seat (approx 18x11x11 in, soft-sided best)

3. Get a health certificate from your vet within 10 days of travel

4. International: obtain USDA-endorsed health cert + destination import docs 30+ days out

5. Domestic in-cabin fee: $95 each way | International: $200 each way (varies)

6. Service dogs: submit DOT forms at least 48 hours before departure

7. Check breed restrictions — snub-nosed breeds restricted from cargo

8. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 with pet type, breed, weight, and carrier dimensions for booking

How Much Is the In-Cabin Pet Fee?

Delta charges $95 per carrier each way for in-cabin pets on domestic flights within the United States, including Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. A round-trip with a pet costs $190 in pet fees. The fee is charged per carrier rather than per animal, meaning two small pets traveling together in one carrier pay a single $95 fee if Delta permits dual occupancy for the species. The fee is paid at check-in or by calling +1 (855) 203-2961 during the reservation process. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 to confirm the fee and reserve your pet spot.

The $95 domestic fee is among the lowest in the US airline industry. American charges $150, United $125, Southwest $125, and JetBlue $125 each way. Delta's pricing advantage of $30-55 per direction

makes it one of the most cost-effective options for in-cabin pet travel. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and confirm the current fee, as pricing is subject to change.

How Much Does International Pet Travel Cost?

International in-cabin pet fees are approximately $200 each way on most Delta international routes, though the exact fee varies by destination. Some routes may charge more. A round-trip international pet fee totals approximately $400. International travel also involves additional costs beyond the airline fee: USDA health certificate endorsement ($38 government fee plus veterinary charges), destination country import permit fees (varies by country), possible microchip implantation ($25-75 at your vet), and additional veterinary visits for required testing. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for the exact international pet fee on your specific route.

The total cost of international pet travel can reach $500-800 when you factor in all veterinary, documentation, and airline fees. Budget for these costs well in advance. Some destination countries require veterinary visits at specific intervals before travel, each adding $100-200 in vet costs. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 at least 30 days before international departure to understand the full cost breakdown for your destination.

How Much Does Delta Cargo Pet Shipping Cost?

Delta Cargo pet shipping rates vary by animal size, crate dimensions, route, and weight. Cargo rates are typically $200-500+ per direction for domestic shipments and higher for international. The exact rate is quoted when you contact Delta Cargo with your pet's details and travel route. Additional costs include the IATA-approved crate ($50-300 depending on size), health certificate ($100-200 from your vet), and food and water dishes for the crate. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for general cargo guidance, then contact Delta Cargo directly for a shipping quote.

Cargo pet shipping is a different service from in-cabin pet travel and is handled by Delta's cargo division rather than the passenger reservation system. The booking process, pricing, and requirements are separate. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for initial direction, and the agent provides the Delta Cargo contact information for your specific route and pet size.

Are Service Dogs Free on Delta?

Yes, trained service dogs fly in the cabin at no charge on all Delta flights. There is no pet fee, no carrier requirement (the dog sits at your feet or on your lap if small), and no breed or size restriction for legitimate service animals. The only requirement is completing and submitting the DOT Service Animal Air Transportation Form at least 48 hours before departure. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 at least 48 hours before travel to process your service dog documentation and confirm the no-fee accommodation.

The free service dog policy applies to all routes including international flights. However, international destination countries may have their own animal import requirements that apply even to service dogs. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and specify that you are traveling with a service dog internationally so the agent can advise on both Delta's documentation and the destination country's requirements.

Is There a Per-Segment Fee for Connecting Flights?

The pet fee is charged per each way, meaning one fee covers the entire one-directional journey including connections. A domestic itinerary with a connection, such as New York to Atlanta to Los Angeles, costs one $95 pet fee for the entire outbound direction, not $95 per segment. The return journey costs another $95. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and confirm per-direction pricing for your specific itinerary, particularly for complex multi-stop routings where the fee structure may differ.

For international itineraries with domestic connections, the fee may be the international rate ($200) for the entire direction rather than a domestic rate for the domestic segment plus an international rate. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and the agent calculates the exact fee based on your complete routing.

Can You Get a Refund for a Pet Fee?

If your flight is cancelled by Delta and you choose not to rebook with your pet, the pet fee should be refunded alongside your ticket refund. If you cancel your flight voluntarily, the pet fee is typically included in the eCredit value of the cancelled ticket for non-refundable fares or refunded as cash for refundable fares. If your pet is denied boarding due to a Delta error, request a pet fee refund. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for pet fee refund processing in any of these situations.

If you paid the pet fee at check-in and then your pet was not transported for any reason, request a refund before leaving the airport. Document the denial reason and the agent's name. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 afterward if the refund was not processed at the airport.

Are There Any Hidden Pet Travel Costs?

Beyond the airline pet fee, plan for these additional costs: veterinary health certificate ($50-200 depending on your vet and the type of certificate), pet carrier if you do not already own one ($30-100 for soft-sided airline-approved carriers), microchip for international travel ($25-75), USDA health certificate endorsement for international ($38 government fee), destination country import permit (varies, $0-200), and possible quarantine fees at certain international destinations ($500-2000+). Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for airline-specific costs, then consult your vet and destination country's agriculture authority for the complete cost picture.

For domestic travel, the total additional cost beyond the $95 airline fee is typically $50-150 for the health certificate and carrier if needed. For international travel, budget $300-800 in additional costs. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 early in your planning process so you know the airline costs and can budget

the remaining veterinary and documentation expenses.

How Do Pet Fees Compare If You Are Traveling with Multiple Pets?

Each pet carrier requires its own fee: $95 domestic or $200 international each way. If you have two small pets that fit in one carrier, you may pay only one fee. If you have two pets requiring separate carriers, you need two passenger bookings (one pet carrier per passenger) and pay two fees per direction. A family of two traveling with two pets in separate carriers pays $190 each way domestic, totaling $380 round-trip in pet fees alone. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and describe your multi-pet situation for accurate fee calculation and booking coordination.

The cost escalates quickly with multiple pets. Three pets requiring three carriers need three passenger bookings and cost $285 each way domestic ($570 round-trip). Consider whether all pets must travel or whether temporary care arrangements at home might be more economical for some pets. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and the agent helps you evaluate the most cost-effective approach for your specific multi-pet travel scenario.

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Pet Travel Options at a Glance

Option	Animals Allowed	Fee	Key Requirements
In-cabin (under seat)	Small dogs, cats, household birds	$95 each way domestic	Carrier fits under seat (18x11x11 in approx)
Delta Cargo (checked cargo)	Dogs, cats (varies by breed)	Varies (cargo rates)	USDA health cert, IATA-approved crate
Service animal (trained)	Dogs only (task-trained)	$0 (no fee)	DOT forms 48 hrs before departure
International in-cabin	Small dogs, cats	$200 each way (varies by route)	Health cert, import permit varies by country
Emotional support animal	No longer accepted	N/A	Delta ended ESA policy Jan 2021
Snub-nosed breeds (brachy)	Restricted in cargo	May be denied cargo	Higher risk breed, cabin may be option
Military/govt working dogs	Trained service/ working dogs	$0 with orders	Military orders, handler docs

Connecting flight with pet	Same rules each segment	Per-segment fee applies	Call {ph} for multi-segment pet

How Does Delta Compare to Other Airlines for Pet Travel?

Policy	Delta	American	United	Southwest	Alaska	JetBlue
In-cabin fee	$95 each way	$150 each way	$125 each way	$125 each way	$100 each way	$125 each way
Cabin pet types	Dogs, cats, birds	Dogs, cats	Dogs, cats, rabbits	Dogs, cats	Dogs, cats, rabbits	Dogs, cats
Cargo pet service	Delta Cargo (separate)	AA cargo (separate)	PetSafe (separate)	Not available	Alaska cargo	Not available
In-cabin int'l	$200 (varies)	$150 (varies)	$125 (varies)	Domestic only	$100 (varies)	$150 (varies)
Carrier size (approx)	18x11x11 in	19x13x9 in	18x11x11 in	18.5x8.5x13.5	17x11x7.5 in	17x12.5x8.5
Pets per flight limit	Limited spots	Limited spots	Limited spots	6 per flight	Limited spots	Limited spots

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People Also Ask

Q: Can you bring a pet on a Delta flight?

Yes, small dogs, cats, and household birds can travel in the cabin under the seat in a carrier for $95 each way domestic. Larger pets can travel via Delta Cargo. Service dogs fly free with required DOT forms. Pet spots are limited per flight and require advance reservation by calling +1 (855) 203-2961. Pet bookings cannot be made online. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 to reserve a spot.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: How much does Delta charge for pets?

In-cabin pets cost $95 each way domestic, $200 each way on most international routes. Delta Cargo rates vary by animal size, route, and crate. Service dogs are free. The pet fee is charged per carrier, not per animal, so two small pets in one carrier pay one fee if allowed. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for exact pricing on your route.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: How do you book a pet on Delta?

Pet reservations must be made by calling +1 (855) 203-2961 because the online system cannot process pet bookings. Call at least 48 hours before departure. Provide your confirmation code, pet type, breed, weight, and carrier dimensions. The agent reserves one of the limited pet spots on your flight. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 as early as possible because spots fill quickly.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What size carrier fits under the Delta seat?

Delta requires carriers to fit under the seat in front of you, approximately 18x11x11 inches for most aircraft. Soft-sided carriers that compress slightly are recommended. The carrier must allow the pet to stand, turn around, and lie down comfortably. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and the agent verifies the carrier size for your specific aircraft type.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Does Delta allow emotional support animals?

No. Delta stopped accepting emotional support animals in January 2021, aligning with DOT rule changes. Only trained service dogs performing specific tasks for passengers with disabilities are accommodated at no charge. Psychiatric service dogs that are task-trained still qualify. All other animals must travel as pets with the standard fee. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for service dog documentation requirements.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Can you bring a large dog on Delta?

Large dogs that do not fit in an under-seat carrier cannot fly in the cabin. They can travel via Delta Cargo in an IATA-approved crate with a USDA health certificate. Service dogs of any size fly in the cabin at no charge with required DOT documentation. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for Delta Cargo pet shipping rates and requirements for large dogs.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What health documents do you need for a pet on Delta?

Domestic in-cabin: current vaccination records and health certificate from a veterinarian within 10 days of travel. International: USDA-endorsed health certificate, rabies vaccination, import permit from the destination country, and possibly microchip verification. Requirements vary by country. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 at least 30 days before international travel for country-specific documents.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Are there breed restrictions for pets on Delta?

Delta restricts certain snub-nosed (brachycephalic) breeds from cargo travel due to respiratory risks at altitude, including Bulldogs, Pugs, Boston Terriers, and similar breeds. These breeds may still travel in-cabin if they fit in an approved carrier. Some destination countries have breed-specific import bans. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and provide your pet's breed for route-specific restrictions.

Read our complete guide for more details >

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: In-cabin fee?

A: $95 domestic each way. $200 international varies. Per carrier. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 to reserve a pet spot.

Q: Book online?

A: No. Pet bookings require calling +1 (855) 203-2961. Spots are limited per flight. Call early.

Q: Carrier size?

A: Approx 18x11x11 in. Must fit under seat. Soft-sided recommended. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for aircraft-specific size.

Q: ESA?

A: Not accepted since Jan 2021. Only trained service dogs fly free. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for service dog forms.

Q: Health docs?

A: Domestic: vet health cert within 10 days. International: USDA cert + country docs. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for requirements.

Q: Large dogs?

A: Cabin: no (must fit under seat). Cargo: yes via Delta Cargo. Service dogs: any size free. Call +1 (855) 203-2961.

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> Can You Bring a Dog in the Cabin on Delta?

> What Are Delta Rules for Pets in Cargo?

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Written by Travel Policy Research Team | Reviewed by Senior Aviation Editor

Sources: delta.com, USDA APHIS, U.S. DOT

This article is for informational purposes only. Always verify current policies directly with Delta Air Lines.